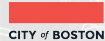


# B Downtown Crossing Street Improvements



A better way to bring Boston together

## OUR PURPOSE

- Amplify and build on what makes Downtown Crossing great!
- Ensure an inclusive, active, and economically-vibrant area for decades to come
- Support goals of Go Boston 2030 and Vision Zero

For more information, visit:

## PROJECT WEBSITE

[boston.gov/downtown-crossing-street-improvements](https://boston.gov/downtown-crossing-street-improvements)

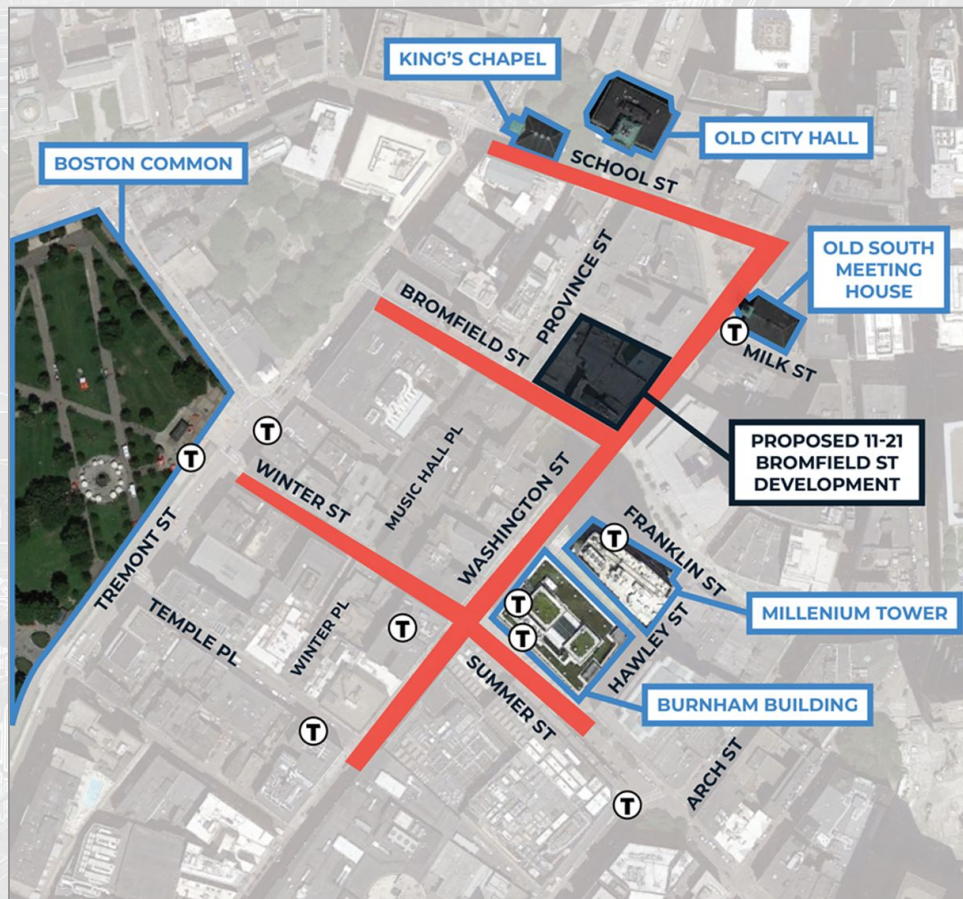


Public Works



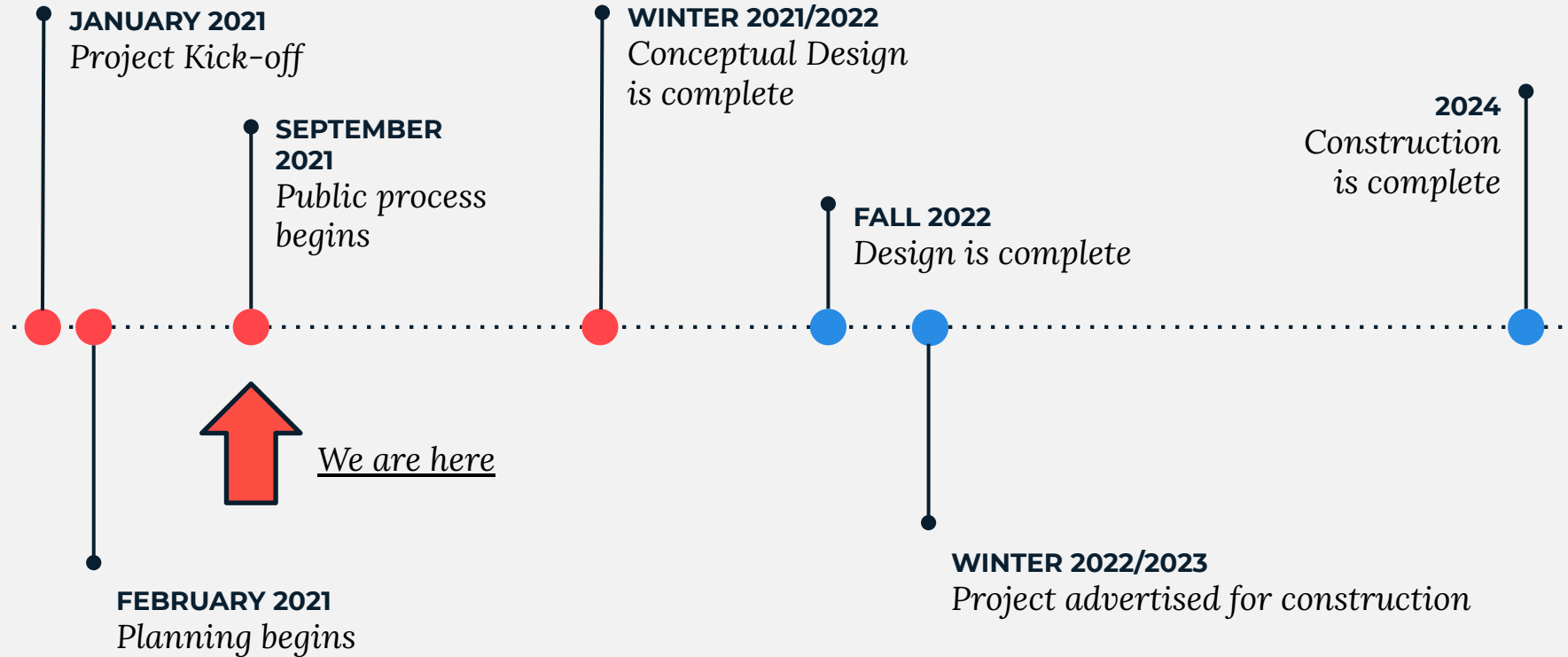
Transportation

## PROJECT SCOPE



# ANTICIPATED SCHEDULE \*

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\* Schedule is anticipated and is subject to change \*

\*\* Project is funded through conceptual design phase \*\*

**Design** – 18 Months

**Construction** – 24 Months





# ACCESS & MOBILITY

Downtown Crossing continues to serve as a nexus of mobility in Boston, itself known as the “Hub of the Universe”

More than 50,000 people walk through Downtown Crossing on an average weekday (pre-COVID)



This project must manage access and conflicts between commercial deliveries, ride-share vehicles, etc. while reinforcing pedestrians as the primary mode of travel

## LEGEND:



Project Limits



Boylston  
5,265

MBTA Station with  
Weekday Boardings

Peak Hour



Pedestrian Volumes

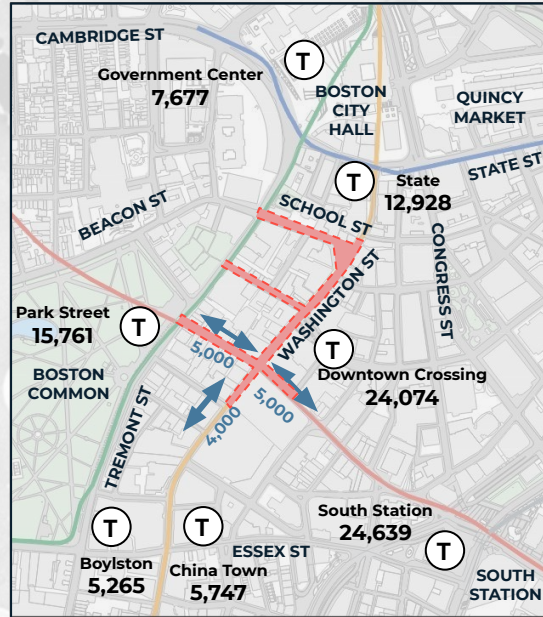


High-Comfort  
Bicycle Network

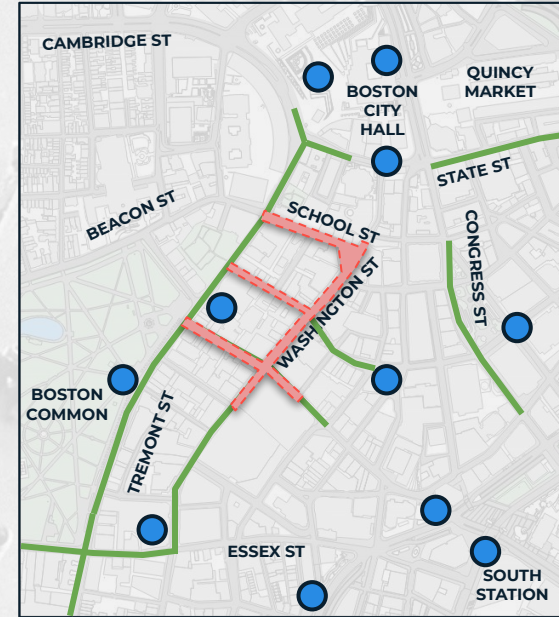


Blue Bikes Station

## WALKING/TRANSIT CONTEXT



## BIKING CONTEXT



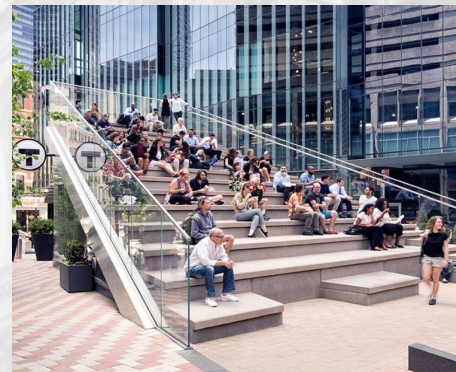




# ACTIVATION

“...Downtown Crossing Pedestrian Zone is a very popular place to meet up, to people watch, and to sit. Summer Street is by far the most popular place to do all three, but each section has its own character.”

Public Life  
Study, Howard Stein Hudson, Summer 2016







# ENVIRONMENT

Nearly 400 years in the making, Downtown Crossing has many existing constraints which will require creative solutions

Existing sidewalks in a challenging state of repair



MBTA tunnels underneath much of the project limits



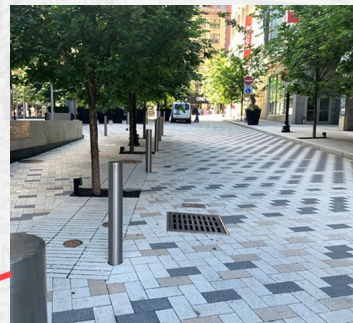
Complex underground utility network



Numerous historic abutting properties



Limited area for street trees and stormwater infrastructure







# PRECEDENTS

*Downtown Crossing can incorporate great ideas from pedestrian streets across the globe*



**ITHACA COMMONS**  
Ithaca, NY

An inclusive, welcoming environment and public realm for residents and visitors alike



**MARKET SQUARE**  
Pittsburgh, PA

A successful transit and pedestrian mall with over 150k visitors per day and incredible diversity of uses

An inviting shared street surrounding a central gathering space in a historic Downtown

A time-tested, world-renowned pedestrian street with multiple changes in character throughout



**STRØGET**  
Copenhagen, Denmark

A centrally-located transit hub underneath an integrated public space with events/programming



**FULTON MALL**  
Brooklyn, NY



**PUERTA DEL SOL**  
Madrid, Spain





## NEXT STEPS

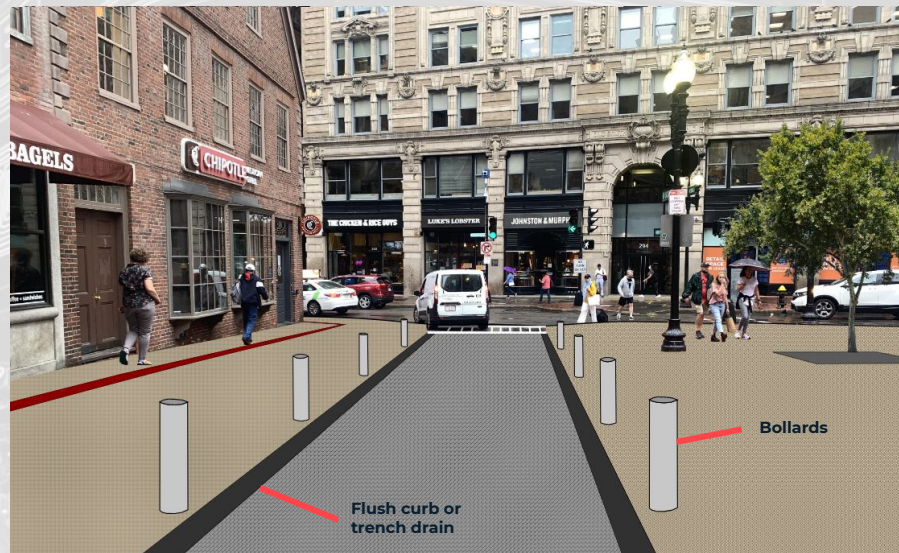
*What are some of the possibilities at Downtown Crossing?*

### SCHOOL STREET: TODAY



Today, motor vehicles have priority along School Street, despite the heavy pedestrian volumes along the Freedom Trail and to/from nearby businesses and attractions

### SCHOOL STREET: FUTURE?



A “Shared Street” treatment would prioritize pedestrians by widening sidewalks, removing the curbs and making the street flush with the sidewalks. Bollards or other street furniture can be used to separate cars and people walking

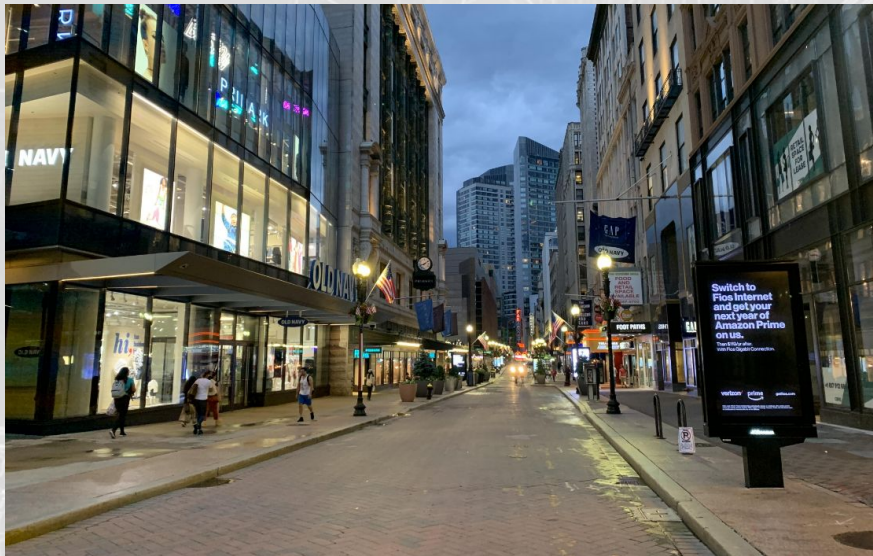




## NEXT STEPS

*What are some of the possibilities at Downtown Crossing?*

### WASHINGTON STREET: TODAY



Pedestrians tend to stick to the sidewalks along Washington Street because existing curbs and vehicles make the roadway feel less inviting for people walking

### WASHINGTON STREET: FUTURE?



Removing the curbs along Washington Street will encourage pedestrians to use the full width of the roadway, and reinforce the pedestrian priority at Downtown Crossing. Different paving materials and colors may be considered to highlight different uses, such as loading areas



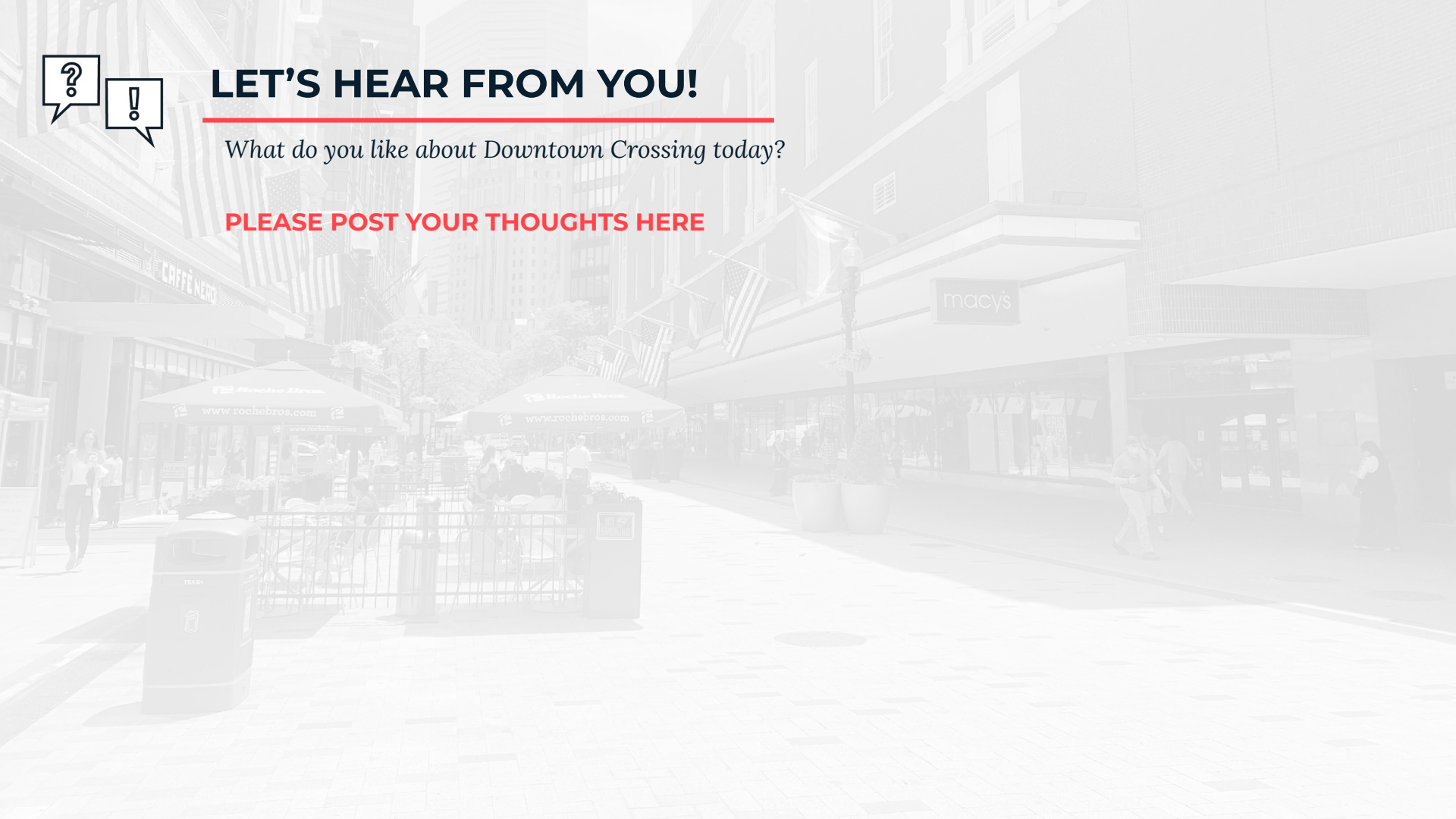


# LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

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*What do you like about Downtown Crossing today?*

**PLEASE POST YOUR THOUGHTS HERE**





# LET'S HEAR FROM YOU!

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*What would you change about Downtown Crossing?*

**PLEASE POST YOUR THOUGHTS HERE**

